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The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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WEATHER FORECAST
FINE.
Barometer 30.00

November 8, 1918. Temperature 8 a.m. 73 2 p.m. 75
Humidity 85 80

November 8, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 71 2 p.m. 77
Humidity 76 54

8094 日五初月十

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1918.

五期星 號八月一十英港香

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PER ANNUM

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

UNINTERRUPTED ALLIED PROGRESS.

HEADLONG RETREAT OF THE GERMANS.

SUCCESSES REPORTED FROM ALL SECTORS.

London, November 6.
An American official message states:—We continue to advance between Bsr and the Meuse cur line extending from Dufon de Limon wood through Flaba Maison Oella-Ohemery on the line of the Meuse, which we hold from Hospice Wood inclusive to Saesey on the heights eastward of Milly, thence to Dan-sur-Meuse.

The German Withdrawal.

London, November 6.
A German official wireless message says:—We have withdrawn between the Scheldt and the Qise.

Allied General Victory.

Lyons, November 7.
Tuesday was marked by a general victory of the British, French and American troops, who made uninterrupted progress on a front of 125 kilometres between the Scheldt and the Meuse, advancing to a depth of 10 kilometres at certain points.

This important result was due to the brilliant success gained on Monday by the Fourth, Fifth, and First British Armies in co-operation with the First French Army, which has succeeded in passing the Sambre Canal.

The enemy left in the hands of the Allies a large amount of material and a number of prisoners, which are continually increasing. British troops have reached Obies, and are within 12 kilometres of Mauberge. After capturing the formidable position of Murnal Forest, General Doherty captured Guise on Tuesday morning.

The whole pivot of the German front has been wiped out, as a result of the French advance in this sector, where they made the most important progress.

In Argonne, General Gouraud crossed the Ardennes Canal in the direction of Montgon and La Chesne.

Finally, on the right bank of the Meuse, the Americans took the important position Dan-sur-Meuse.—*French Wireless*

Magnificent French Progress.

London, November 7.
A French communique states:—Our indefatigable troops continued to pursue the enemy all day between the Sambre and the Meuse, shattering local resistance. They advanced ten kilometres at certain points and liberated numerous civilian populations. The enemy, harassed by advance guards, abandoned everywhere, during a headlong retreat, prisoners, guns and material so far as unaccounted.

East of the Sambre we reached the eastern outskirts of Nouvion and Regnavil Forests and captured, farther south, Vervins, to the north of which we are advancing beyond the Serre.

The Italians crossed the Hurtaux by assault and stormed Rony-sur-Serre.

North of the Aisne we are twelve kilometres north of Chateau Porcien and have captured Bethel. We have advanced six kilometres north thereof. Cavalry here charged and captured a battery of fieldguns and a battery of 4-inch guns with the gunners' teams.

The British Advance.

London, November 7.
Filed Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We progressed on the whole battlefield, despite rain, and in sharp fighting took prisoner hundreds.

On the right we captured Cartignies and Tarbaix.

In the centre we drove the enemy out of hastily constructed defences on the east bank of the Sambre. We crossed the river near Berlaimont and captured Leval and Aulnoye, also an important railway junction there.

Farther north, we crossed the Avesnes-Bivai Road eastward of Mormal Forest, and reached the railway southward and westward of Davai, where sharp fighting continues near the town.

We cleared the bank of the Honelle as far north as Angre, where in day-long stiff fighting we repulsed two counter-attacks.

On the left, the Canadians, progressing eastward of the Scheldt, captured Baisieux and Quivrevrain.

Americans Advance Four Kilometres.

London, November 7.
At American communique states:—We advanced over four kilometres east of the Meuse, despite most difficult ground and bitter resistance.

The enemy is desperately striving to maintain his last foothold on the heights of the Meuse.

The enemy has failed to check the rapid progress on the west of the Meuse; where we reached the outskirts of Mouson and captured Balson and Baucourt.

Twenty-two enemy Divisions have appeared on our front between the Meuse and Argonne since November 1.

More German Devilly.

London, November 7.
Reuter's correspondent at the Belgian front, writing on November 5, says the Bavarians, before evacuating, systematically pillaged Deynes and massacred 138 civilians, on the orders of General von Ostrowski. When the looting was finished the Bavarians drove the inhabitants into the cellars into which they threw incendiary bombs. The whole of Courrai Street was burned and thirty-four civilians were incinerated, while 129 others were killed by shells which the Germans fired after they left the town.

AFTER THE WAR.

Re-employment of Fighters and Workers.

London, November 7.
The Press Bureau announces that the Government has created a new Department of Disarmament and Reconstruction to deal with all matters connected with the employment of soldiers and war workers.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE PEACE OUTLOOK.

GERMAN DELEGATES REACH THE ALLIED LINES.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS DEMAND END OF WAR.

Amsterdam, November 6.
A Berlin official message states that the German Delegation to conclude an armistice and take up peace negotiations has left Berlin for the Western Front.

Delegation Reaches Allied Lines.

London, November 6.
It is stated in the Lobby of the House of Commons that the German Armistice Delegation has reached the Allied lines.

Germany Expected to Accept Terms.

London, November 7.
It is understood that Marshal Foch will receive the German Armistice Delegates to-day.

Little doubt is entertained in London that Germany will accept the terms, owing to the increasing gravity of her position militarily and internally.

The pace of the German retreat was greatly accelerated yesterday and became almost a rout. The threat to the enemy communications was accentuated by the captured of Vervins, only eight miles from the Eiron Railway centre, and also Omicourt, ten miles from Metz and eight miles from Sedan. The average advance on the whole immense front yesterday was six miles. The German flank at Valenciennes is turned and also the flank west of the Meuse. Prince Rupprecht's seventy-one Divisions have been forced to retreat northwards and will find it difficult to escape without being shouldered across the Dutch frontier.

The German Delegates.

London, November 7.
The German Armistice Delegates are:—General von Grunard, Military Delegate to the Hague Peace Conference; General von Winterfeld, former Military Attache in Paris; and Admirals Maurer and von Hintze, the former Foreign Minister.

German Protest Against Bolshevik Propaganda.

London, November 6.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says in consequence of the discovery in the Bolshevik diplomatic mail of pamphlets printed in German inciting German workers and soldiers to revolt, it is officially announced that Germany has demanded guarantees from Moscow that such propaganda shall cease and that the murder of Count Mirbach be adequately expiated.

Meanwhile Germany has requested the withdrawal of the representatives of the Bolshevik Government from Berlin, and Germany withdraws the German representatives from Moscow.

Von Buelow and the Kaiser's Abdication.

London, November 6.
Prince von Buelow, writing to the *Norddeutsche*, says Germany is at present sufficiently demoralised, and the abdication of the Kaiser would cause a tempest in which much else would be swept away.

Six German Divisions Entrapped.

London, November 6.
Reliable news shows that the Hungarians have refused to permit six German Divisions, under General von Mackensen, on the Danube, to retire through Hungary. It is assumed they will fall into our hands, together with the German troops and artillery in Caucasasia.

Italian Officers at Bozen.

London, November 6.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says Italian officers have arrived at Bozen.

[Bozen is an important trading town of the Austrian Tyrol, 35 miles N.N.E. of Trent].

German Demand for Unconditional End of War.

Amsterdam, November 6.
A message from Berlin says the leaders of the Social Democrats have demanded that the Government secure the unconditional end of the war; otherwise, they will leave the Government.

America's Assurances to Rumania.

Washington, November 7.
The Secretary of State has sent a message to Rumania assuring the Government's sympathy with Rumanian national aspirations both within and without the boundaries of Rumania. It promises, when the time comes, to exert its influence to secure the just political and territorial rights of the Rumanian people.

Disorganisation in Hungary.

London, November 7.
Disorganisation is continuing in Hungary. A large number of Serbian prisoners returning to their own country are being assisted by the Hungarian population.

THE BALKAN CAMPAIGN.

London, November 7.
A French Eastern communique states that French troops have occupied the bend of the Danube in the region of Orsova.

SPANISH CABINET RESIGNS.

London, November 7.
A message from Madrid says the Cabinet has resigned.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

SERIOUS MUTINY AT KIEL.

RED FLAG HOISTED ON BATTLESHIPS.

TWENTY NAVAL OFFICERS KILLED.

London, November 6.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says the German papers report serious disturbances at Kiel on the 3rd inst. owing to naval men and civilians attempting to release imprisoned mutinous sailors. The crowd committed excesses and the attempt was only abandoned after the military had fired, killing eight and wounding twenty-nine.

Details of the Mutiny.

Amsterdam, November 6.
A message from Cologne says a very serious mutiny broke out at Kiel to-day. The battleships Kaiser and Scheleswig hoisted the red flag after a conflict between officers and sailors, in which twenty officers, including two captains, were killed. The Kiel Garrison refused to go to the harbour and the crews of the battleships secured complete mastery and threatened to blow up the vessels if attacked.

The Hamburg *Fremdenblatt* states that the Reichstag Socialist leaders, Herr Haase and Herr Ledebour, have been summoned to Kiel for the purpose of completing the local Committee.

Three Companies of infantry arrived at Kiel and immediately joined the revolutionaries. A fourth Company, on arrival, was disarmed. Hussars then hurried up but when an hour from Kiel, sailors, armed with machine-guns, forced them back.

The Soldiers' Council ordered the officers to remain at their posts and obey the instructions of the Council, which controls the food supplies.

The Governor of Kiel (Admiral Sonnhoff) has been temporarily arrested and has granted all the sailors' demands, including the abolishing of the salute.

The sailors declare they will not return to their ships until peace is signed. They state they have established guards armed with machine-guns on all the warships at Kiel, and have thereby rendered the approach of the authorities impossible.

More Unrest.

Copenhagen, November 7.
A message from Berlin says the Wolff Bureau announces that a general strike has broken out in Hamburg, where outrages have occurred. There are similar happenings at Luebeck.

BRITISH SHIPPING LOSSES.

Considerably More Than Half Replaced.

London, November 6.
In the House of Commons, Dr. Macdonald stated that 8,946,000 tons of British merchant shipping had been lost during the war to September 30 by enemy action and marine risks, of which 5,443,000 tons had been replaced by new construction, purchase of ships abroad and the utilisation of captured enemy ships.

THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.

Alarming Death-Roll at Home.

London, November 6.
It is officially announced that the deaths from influenza in the great towns in England and Wales for the past week total 7,417, compared with 4,482 for last week. The respective totals for London are 4,168 and 2,227.

GENERAL ALLENBY DECORATED.

London, November 6.
His Majesty the King has conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath on General Allenby.

MORE BRITISH AIR RAIDS.

London, November 7.
The Press Bureau states that the Independent Air Force, despite the weather, on the 5th inst. attacked the aerodromes at Morhange, hitting the railway and aerodromes.

On the night of the 5th inst. the Force attacked aerodromes at Morhange, Frescaty, Dienne and Lellingen and set fire to a hangar at Morhange.

On the 6th inst. the Force heavily and successfully attacked Bahl aerodromes and destroyed three aeroplanes in severe fighting. Three British machines are missing.

SMALL NAVAL LOSSES.

London, November 6.
The Admiralty announces that a British patrol vessel was sunk on the 4th inst. One man is missing.

A British auxiliary vessel was sunk on November 5 without casualties. Both mishaps were the result of collision.

SEVERE LOSS TO THE ARMY.

London, November 6.
The Press Bureau announces that the British and Allied Armies have sustained a severe loss by the death from pneumonia of Colonel E. F. Harrison, Controller of the Chemical Warfare Department and in sole charge of research in connection with gas defence and the manufacture of respirators. His foresight provided a complete antidote to every new gas employed against us. Colonel Harrison joined the army in 1914.

JAPAN AND PEACE.

Marquis Okuma's Terms.

What will be Japan's peace terms? The question was answered by Marquis Okuma, ex-Premier of Japan, in an article published by the *Kokumin* recently. Since the beginning of the war, none of the Japanese statesmen or publicists have tried to answer this question, so the Marquis's answer has special importance. Marquis Okuma's peace terms are the following:—

(1) Japan should approve all decisions to be reached by Great Britain, France and the United States so far as the territorial alterations in the Western front, Central Europe, Balkans and in the African colonies are concerned, as she has no direct interest in the affairs of these territories.

(2) Japan's attitude towards the problems relating to the future of Germany and Russia should be decided in accordance with the Allied conference, but Japan should declare first that the fundamental principle applicable in settling the problem should be founded on the universal desire to obtain the permanent peace of the world.

(3) The problems relating to war indemnity should be settled by the Allied conference.

(4) The future of the Samoa Islands, which has caused various diplomatic controversies between Great Britain, the United States and Germany, should be decided in accordance with the will of the former two Powers, for the purpose of destroying German bases in the Pacific.

(5) The German New Guinea, which is now occupied by the British, should not be returned to Germany. Australia would not consent to the retrocession, even though the home government of Great Britain might accept. The principle should also be applicable to the Bismarck Islands.

(6) Japan should hold those islands like Marshall, Caroline, and others, which are now occupied by the Japanese navy, as it is dangerous to return them to Germany, and as there is no reason to let the other Powers occupy them.

(7) The cable line between Tsingtao and the southern islands, which is now occupied by the Japanese navy, should be held by Japan. The cable line is a property owned by a private concern, so that Germany should buy it up before conceding it to Japan.

(8) Japan should return Tsingtao to China, as she has declared, but she should have the right to hold the exclusive settlement there and various organs and buildings attached to the settlement. The Tientsin Railway, which is a property of a private concern, should be bought up by the German Government and then should be conceded to Japan.

(9) The problems relating to the maintenance of order in Siberia should be settled by the Allied conference, but all the Allied Powers should refrain from any action or demand for acquiring concessions in Siberia.

(10) The relations between China and other Powers should be based upon the principle of open-door and equal opportunity.

—J. A.

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—8.15 p.m.

TOMORROW.

Victoria Theatre—8.15 p.m.

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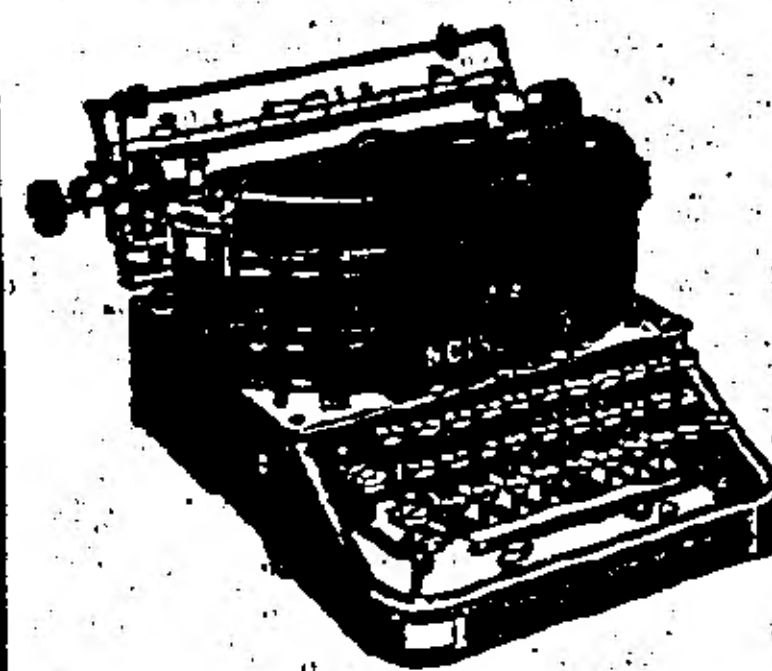
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GENERAL NEWS.

French Women Thank Wilson
Mrs. O'Brien Chapman Obit.
president of the National Ameri-
can Woman Suffrage Association,
sent to President Wilson recently
a letter from the French Woman
Suffrage Union, thanking him for
a recent message to the Union.
"As we hoped," the letter said,
"your opinion on woman suffrage
has made a deep impression in
France and has exercised a favour-
able influence on our deputies."

After-Care of the Blind.

The After-Care Department of
the National Institute for the
Blind, 208, Great Portland Street,
W.1, appeals for clothing, boots,
and other articles for distribution
among the necessitous blind.
The claim of the sightless on the
charitable instincts of the public
is one that is always sure of a
generous response, and owing to
war prices distress among the
poor blind is greater than ever.

1,600,000 Feet of Rafts.

What is stated to be the largest
boom of logs ever handled in
British Columbia has arrived at
Howe Sound. The boom consists
of 1,600,000 ft. of logs, and is
consisted of Mill Creek; where
the timber will be ground into
pulp. The logs were in two rafts,
one from the Queen Charlotte
Islands and the other from Swan-
son Bay, and constructed on what
is known as the Davis system.
Logs are piled on logs and
securely lashed until a large pro-
portion of the boom is under
water. In this case one raft was
drawing 40 ft. of water and the
other 30 ft.

Escape from Belgium.

The Belgian newspaper *Les
Nouvelles*, which is published at
the Hague, reports that, armed
with revolvers, sporting rifles,
and Belgian manner rifles, 32
Frenchmen and Belgians escaped
across the frontier at Liégeois
recently. Two of them cut the
wire, while fourteen others kept
watch and the rest waited in a
wood. While they were thus
engaged the moon revealed the
party to a sentry, who opened
fire, to which the fugitives replied
with their rifles. They then
succeeded in crossing the wire,
and arrived safe and sound on
neutral territory.

A Handy-Man Prince.

Discussing the visit of Prince
Arthur of Connaught, the *Toronto
World*, which describes him as
"the handy man of the Royal
Family," says:—"He is perhaps
the most fortunate Prince in the
world, being too far removed from
the Throne to be troubled by the
ambitions and worries that beset
so many German princelings; while,
at the same time, he shares the
goodwill of a loyal
democracy toward a constitutional
Monarch, who asks nothing, and
expects nothing, that the people
are not willing to give him."

U.S. Mission in Algeria.

The American Mission, which
has been designated to study con-
ditions and devise means to help
in the development of agricultural
production of Algeria, arrived in
Algiers recently. All of the
members of the Mission are
specialists in dry farming and
irrigation, and will study the soil,
with the intention of production
of crops on the semi-sterile high
ground of southern Algeria. Ac-
cording to private information,
the Mission desires to obtain a
concession to more than four
million acres for cultivation by
American methods and with
American implements.
St. Lawrence River Projects.
The International Waterways
Commission is in session at
Montreal to consider applications
by private American interests for
the development of the Long
Sault Rapids power project and
by the New York and Ontario
Power Company for approval of
its plans to reconstruct, repair,
and improve its dam and water-
way power properties at Wed-
dington, on the St. Lawrence
River. Opposition to the applica-
tions is being filed by the
Canadian Government, which
contends that the proposed
scheme would interfere with the
economic development of the
St. Lawrence as regards naviga-
tion and power potentialities, and
by the Dominion Marine Adminis-
tration in the interests of
navigation.

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GENERAL NEWS.

Russian Church in Korea.
With the cordial assent of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the Bishop in Korea (Dr. Trollope) is rendering financial and other assistance to the Russian Church Mission in that country, which in a bankrupt condition. The head of the mission had gone to Russia for help, but no one knew where he was or whether he would ever return.

The New Indian Gold Mohur.
The new gold mohur now being struck in India bears upon the obverse the crowned head of George V, King-Emperor (similar in design to that upon other current Indian coins), and the inscription, "15 rupees, India, 1918" upon the reverse. In weight and fineness it is identical with the sovereign, from which it differs in that the value is shown on the coin. The sovereign is the only coin of importance in the world that lacks this qualification.

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL ORGAN RECITAL.

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Scars of old Sores, Pimples, Bores, Pustules,
Rheumatism, Gout, &c. If so, don't let
time and money go by and let your skin
and what you most have in medicine that will directly
free the blood of the poisonous matter which does the
work of all your ailments. Clarke's Blood Mixture
is just such a medicine. It is composed of
the blood all important
from whatever cause
and by regular
use it cleans and
can be relied upon to
give a lasting cure.

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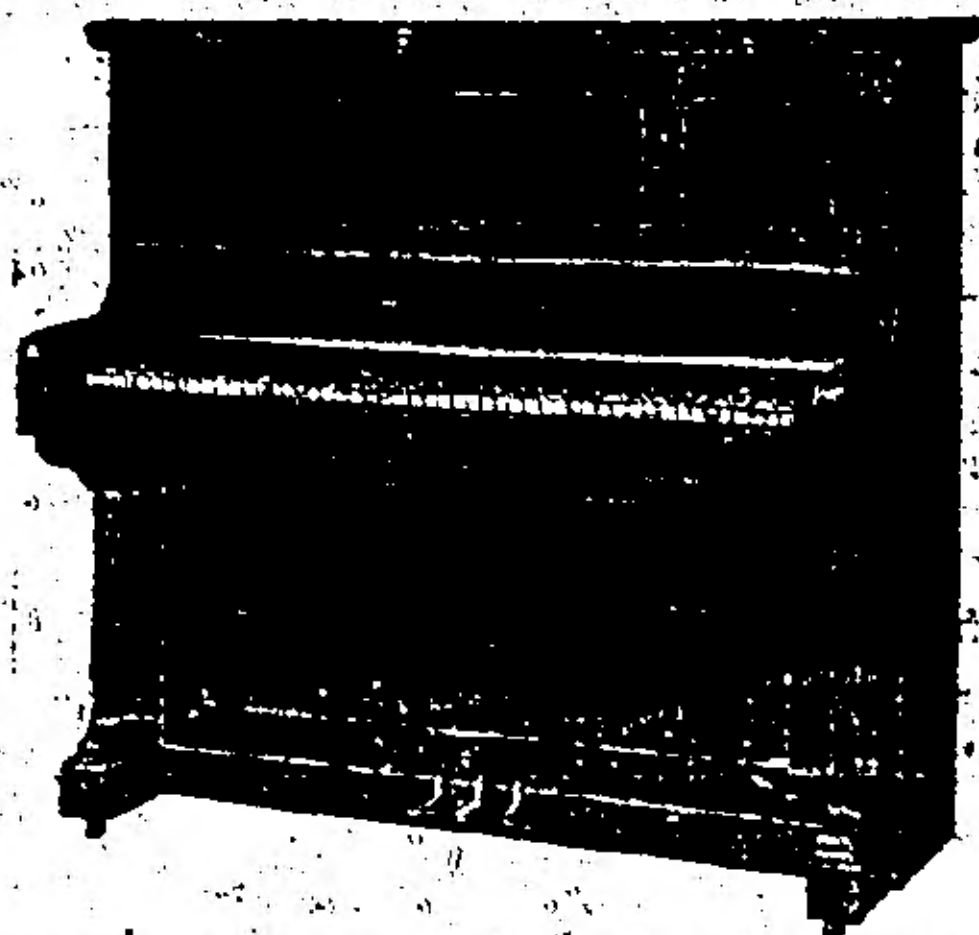
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The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1918.

THE HOUSING PROBLEM.

Last night's crowded meeting in the City Hall bore eloquent testimony to the fact that, despite the inadequate means for expressing it, civil feeling in the Colony is deep and strong. The occasions on which public interest in local issues can be manifested are few and far between; hence the keeping of such questions to the forefront largely devolves on the Unofficial members of the Legislative Council and upon the Press of the Colony. Such a gathering as last night's, however, representing practically every section of the Colony's population, clearly reveals a strong public anxiety and desire for a more direct voice in local affairs. That, indeed, was the chief value of the meeting, for the attitude of those present, on the two questions dealt with, was a foregone conclusion. That fact only emphasises the community's interest in public matters, just as a meagre attendance and no enthusiasm would have demonstrated a spirit of apathy which, while regrettable, would be almost pardonable in a Colony where there is so little opportunity for co-operative popular action. Gatherings such as that held last night are a much needed tonic in Hongkong and they warrant confidence in the fulfilment of the hope that eventually the aims of the body which organised the meeting must meet with success.

We will confine ourselves to the more immediately pressing of the two questions considered by the meeting, namely, the housing problem. Those present, by a unanimous vote, endorsed the suggestion which we have all along advocated—the appointment of a disinterested Commission to investigate and report upon the matter in all its aspects. In view of the terms of the resolution submitted, it was not to be expected that out-and-out schemes would be brought forward, for obviously the matter is one which needs studying in all its ramifications before action is taken. This is not a question which can be tackled piecemeal if a really satisfactory and lasting solution is aimed at. All the same, there were quite a number of useful suggestions thrown out by the speakers at last night's meeting, all of which, and many others as well, deserve being kept in mind until the time arrives for a free airing of the innumerable points which are bound to arise on close analysis of the subject. The whole facts can only be properly marshalled and considered with a due sense of proportion by some such means as indicated in last night's resolution, and in view of the overwhelming and unanimous expression of feeling then evinced, we cannot see how the Government can do otherwise than to accede to the request made.

The present situation has been brought about by "peaceful invasion," and we were glad to see that last night's speakers were not afraid to speak their minds on this point. It is a fact in which some pride may be taken that Chinese from the neighbouring Provinces regard Hongkong as a safe refuge, but hospitality can be overdone and even be abused. The abominable overcrowding of the Colony is one direct result of throwing our arms open to receive strangers of the class alluded to by Mr. Alabaster, but there are other and wealthier types of Chinese who have found Hongkong a convenient seaport and materially aggravated the housing problem, until we begin to doubt whether after all we are not a trifle too kind-hearted to those who have no claim on the Colony's generosity. The same observation applies with equal force to the snapping up of so much desirable house property by the Japanese. It is about time that we realised that charity begins at home. Whatever may be the exact means of solving the problem, there is no doubt a tendency—a wise one, we think—to provide distinct reservations for various sections of the community. It is right that the Portuguese should have their own settlement, and it is equally just that certain areas should be reserved for the British, the Chinese and other communities. But they must be something more than reservations in name. That can easily be done by the Government, and we trust that such a necessity will be pressed on the members of the Commission if one is appointed. If the problem is to be really properly tackled, let it be done in such a way as to meet the needs of all.

No Room for Germans.

By means of the largely-attended public meeting held last evening under the auspices of the Constitutional Reform Association, the Colony has re-endorsed the conviction previously expressed that the Germans be not permitted to return to Hongkong after the war, at any rate for a certain period of time. That view, we have no doubt, is generally shared by the general body of residents here, who have no desire whatever to come into close association with members of a race which has been guilty of crimes which can never be fully expiated. There are some sins for the commission of which individuals are universally ostracised; so it is with nations, and that is why the name of Germany is to-day repugnant to all decent-minded people. Hongkong does not want the Germans back; if it gets them, we fear for the physical comfort of some of them. It may be, of course, that this is a matter which will be taken out of our hands, but, as Mr. Holyoak rightly said at last night's meeting, even the opinion of Hongkong merits consideration in such questions as these, and we can only hope that means will be found of communicating to the Imperial Government this renewed expression of feeling on the part of the men of the Colony.

China's Part.

Reference was made at the meeting to the old cry that if we shut out the Germans, trade will be lost to the Colony and rival ports be set up near at hand by the outcasts. The Chairman partially disposed of that point when he showed the probability of Germany's being so bound by terms of peace as to be unable for many years to embark on undertakings of that character. But there is another aspect of this specific issue which was not mentioned. We refer to China's attitude. We presume that if the Allies as a whole decide on keeping the enemy at arm's length, China will be required to fall in line. That is the least that she could do in view of her somewhat half-hearted efforts so far. China should be required to fulfil her obligations after the war, and the Entente Powers would indeed be letting the enemy off lightly if they permitted the Huns to have a clear field of action in Chinese territory. Concerted action is needed; then the Boche will not be able to escape the punishment which is his due.

No Control.

If evidence is wanted of the utter lack of administrative control in China, we can find it officially recorded in the latest Customs Report dealing with Canton, where it is stated that during last year brigandage and piracy continued unabated, it being added that "the provincial attempts to cope with the evil were, judged by results, nil." As an illustration of the kind of thing that is occurring we read that prior to the establishment of the Republic the largest Hongkong and sea-going junks paid without demerit two hundred dollars a year to the affiliated gangs of that time, and thus plied inland waters and the estuary unmolested. Now the same boats pay from \$900 to \$1,200 and are still liable to piracy and ransom by a dozen outside hands. Lawlessness generally has increased: unprotected villages are molested, like junks, an annual blackmail, and a tax of one dollar per mow on rice land is paid lest worse befall. These are the kind of things which show the degree of maladministration which at present prevails in China, and it would do many people at home good to know that such is the condition of affairs to-day in the so-called Chinese Republic. So far from improving, things have become worse since the Republic was established, and it is because of the obvious inability of the present officials to rule the country that the idea of foreign intervention is again coming to the fore.

New Argentine Wireless.

This wireless station which had been erected on the so-called English Tower is now in communication with the stations at Arlington, Panama, and Balmora, New Jersey.

DAY BY DAY.

EVIL IS BROUGHT BY WANT OF THOUGHT AS WELL AS WANT OF HEART.

To-morrow's Anniversary.

To-morrow is the fourth anniversary of the destruction of the Emden by H.M.A. S. Sydney.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3s. 3.7/16d.

Miss Dione May.

The Officer Administering the Government has received a telegram from Sir Henry May to the effect that the condition of Miss Dione May has improved and that she has been discharged from Hospital.

An Explosion.

Chan Si, a goldsmith, of 308, Queen's Road Central, has been sent to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from burns said to have been caused by the exploding of his goldsmith's blow-lamp.

Train Accident.

A Chinese male living in a village in Chinese territory has been sent to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from injuries received by alighting from a train whilst in motion at Tai Po market.

Traffic Prosecutions.

Twenty-three chair-bearers and ricksha coolies were summoned to the Police Court this morning, before Mr. J. B. Wood, with various breaches of the Traffic Regulations, such as being improperly dressed, rushing fares, Inspector Garrod prosecuted. His Worship imposed fines ranging from \$2 to \$5.

Union Church.

On forthcoming Sunday evening the following "Sermons for Life's Journey" are to be preached at Union Church by the Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald:—November 10th, Fitness for the Journey; November 17th, Harmony by the Way; November 24th, Success on the Way; December 1st, The Consummation of the Journey.

Obstruction.

Sergeant Marks summoned sixteen Chinese, before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, for causing an obstruction at Lower Lascar Road by placing their wares on the public roads. Defendants all pleaded guilty. Sgt. Marks said that he had warned them before, on October 31. His Worship fined them \$2 each.

Searching for Auntie.

The Chinese who was charged with snatching a purse containing \$28.69 from another Chinese came up before Mr. J. B. Wood, at the Police Court this morning. Sgt. Blackman prosecuted and said that at the last hearing he detailed a looking to go with the defendant to look for his aunt, who he said lived at Yumati. He went down and in ten minutes returned saying he did not wish to go. Sgt. Blackman forced him to go and they went to 292, Reclamation Street. On the second floor there lived a woman whose name defendant had given to the Police and it was correct, but she was away at Canton. Defendant said he did not wish to call her as a witness. His Worship sentenced him to six months' hard labour and four hours' stocks.

Smuggled Arms.

The Police, through the services of a female searcher, have prevented just in the nick of time, a case of attempted smuggling. Last evening, just before the Sanning, a river boat, was going away, a female searcher saw a well-dressed young woman going into No. 4 cabin. She followed her into the room and started searching her. On her person were found 150 rounds of ammunition. Sgt. Fallon was then called in and in a further search of the cabin a Smith-Weese revolver and an automatic pistol were found concealed under the pillow of the bunk. The female searcher and Sgt. Fallon gave evidence. The defendant admitted possession of the ammunition, saying it was her property, but she denied that the revolvers were hers. They were put there by somebody. His Worship said he was satisfied that she was guilty of smuggling arms. He would fine her \$400, or three months' hard labour.

LAST NIGHT'S MASS MEETING.

HOUSING PROBLEM AND RETURN OF GERMANS.

POINTED SPEECHES ON BOTH QUESTIONS.

The meeting held under the auspices of the Constitutional Reform Association last night, in St. Andrew's Hall, was one of the most largely attended and most enthusiastic ever held in the Colony. Two matters were considered—the housing problem and the return of the Germans after the war—and on both there was a unanimous vote. The hall was crowded to overflowing, and when the Chairman (the Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak) entered he was given a very cordial reception. Supporting him on the platform were Mr. C. G. Alabaster, O.B.E., Messrs H. B. Dowbiggin, C. H. P. Hay, A. Forbes, A. G. Coppin, A. S. D. Cousland, J. W. Graham, Evan Ormiston and J. P. Braga.

The Housing Problem.

After the notice convening the meeting had been read by Mr. Dowbiggin, the Hon. Secretary, The Hon. Mr. Holyoak said: As early as 1912 in the very early part of the year it was clearly recognised that something must be done in the way of housing reform and the providing of additional accommodation for the ever growing population elsewhere and a scheme was promoted by Mr. Montague Ede and presented in the form of a petition to the Governor of the Colony at that time, Sir Frederick Lugard, and it was supported by sponsors, or trustees—the following men: Sir Paul Chater, Hon. Mr. C. H. Ross, Mr. N. J. Stabb and Mr. Ede, Mr. Ross being afterwards replaced by the Hon. Mr. Landale. The suggestion at that time was that in order to meet the growing needs of the population which was steadily driving the Portuguese out of the neighbourhood of Caine Road and its adjacent roads, a Portuguese Reservation above the Sookunpo Valley should be granted by the Government and at that time it was sympathetically received. It involved, naturally, a very great deal of discussion and correspondence, but it looked at that time as though it would lead to a solution of at least one difficulty in this great problem. The negotiations spread to 1914 and unfortunately the outbreak of war prevented the consummation of that identical scheme. Much water has passed under the bridge since that time and the difficulty, which was even in those days acute, has grown far more acute. The additional influx of Chinese into the Colony as a result of the disturbed condition of the adjacent territories, has led to an enormous increase in the population of Hongkong, and I think there is little doubt that a census would reveal something like a population of a million at least in Hongkong to-day. This has led to immense overcrowding of our already densely populated districts, as is obvious to anyone who has studied the subject and is familiar with the districts, and Lieut. Olitsky in his report on the outbreak of epidemic meningitis in Hongkong, draws attention to this in the following words: "An attempt has been made to demonstrate the importance of overcrowding of the population upon the wide spread dissemination of the disease. Indeed, it may be stated, that as long as the overcrowding continues, under additional adverse conditions of life, as a cold winter season, the recurrence of infections of nose and throat mucous membranes, thus increasing the spraying capacity of individuals, and a migrating population, outbreaks may occur in the Colony from time to time."—and he might just as well have added to that that the recurrence of plague and small pox would be equally prevalent.

"It is beyond the scope of this investigation to state how this great social and economic problem of overcrowding, as it were, the enormous numbers of Chinese from the small area of their community may be accomplished. Reclamation of land and colonizing the adjacent New Territories by improving transit facilities suggest themselves. But this question is left for solution by the Government."

Continuing, Mr. Holyoak said: Now, gentlemen, the prevalence of overcrowding in the Colony, in every part of the Central District is so much an established fact, and so well recognised, and known to us all that it cannot be gainsaid for a moment by the Government.

and I do not think it is. Various concrete proposals have been suggested both in the press and privately at one time or another, but it has been felt by the Committee of this Association that the importance of the problem is so great that it is unwise to meet it by any definite proposal unless it has had the most careful and mature consideration, with the revelation of the facts relating to the same. Therefore I am to move a resolution "That the Government be asked to appoint a Commission to inquire into the Housing Problem and Transit Questions in connection with same", in order that all evidence which may be available can be acquired before any definite step is made in connection with what is really a great problem in connection with the future life and welfare of this Colony and the individuals who are so closely connected with it, and in asking for a Commission we are making no new step. It has been asked for and granted already in the Straits Settlements, and as you are all well aware from studying the reports of this Commission valuable information and equally valuable suggestions have resulted from it. We now ask that as a result of this meeting a recommendation may go forward to this Government showing that this resolution has been adopted, which we hope they in turn will adopt and act upon, and may lead to a general enquiry with fullest consideration of the whole problem which is insolubly bound up with it. I will ask Mr. Alabaster, who has carefully studied this question and is familiar with it, to second the resolution and speak on it. (Loud Applause).

Mr. Alabaster's Suggestions.

Mr. C. G. Alabaster, O.B.E.—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, as the representative on the Sanitary Board of the largest electoral body in this Colony, a body which I hope will ere long be accorded the privilege of returning its own member of the Legislative Council—(applause)—I have been asked to second this resolution and I do so with the greatest pleasure because the housing problem is one that affects every section of the community except perhaps a lucky few who are fortunate enough to have houses of their own or houses provided for them by their employers or the Government. All the rest of us are rapidly being edged out of our homes by the pressure of numbers thronging in. Seven years ago the population of this Colony was half a million. Now it would be a bold man who would say that our population can be numbered in less than seven figures. Floods, revolutions, and pillage in the neighbouring provinces of China have caused this Colony to be looked upon as a place of refuge for the dispossessed and suffering populace of those regions. They have been attracted by the sense of the security afforded by the protection of the British flag. They are mainly agricultural persons and if settled on the land in this Colony could produce for their own benefit and that of the Colony as a whole. Lantau Island, which is a bigger island than Hongkong, possesses a great deal of water, many fertile valleys and is admirably suited as a place for agricultural development. If these people are offered land without premium and with cheap rental they might be settled there, but they cannot be settled there and will not go there unless the Government assists by opening up communications with that island. We need on that island a health resort there are many islands and I know of none more suitable than Dumbell Island, where it is possible to hear from your house day and night the roar of the waves and where you can get into the sea from your house without running the risk of catching cold by going on a bathing picnic. Gentlemen, these are short observations, and I could have dealt with them at greater length but some have come here to listen to another and very important resolution. I therefore have the greatest pleasure in seconding this resolution. (Loud applause).

The Chairman. The matter is now open for discussion. I will ask speakers to be as brief as possible. And if there are many I shall be compelled to limit them owing to the hour and the further resolution to be proposed. (Loud applause).

having regard to the floor space, while the laws and regulations of this Colony only allowed on certain floors from seven to nine people, the number was about twenty. These areas must go, gentlemen, and the people there must be placed elsewhere. On the other side of the harbour there are vast areas capable of settlement, but before they can be settled properly radical changes are needed in our system of communications. The provision of launches where the only seating accommodation is to be found on the gunwale is a disgrace to the fair fame of this port. The ferries which serve Yau-nam and the other parts of the harbour ought to be no less comfortable and no less properly designed than the ferry which runs between Shim-nosaki and Moji. The vessel which takes people to Aberdeen, Stanley, Lamma Island, Chung Chau and the various villages of Lantau and Castle Peak ought to be no less comfortable and well fitted for the service than the vessels which run to the ports of the Inland Sea between Moji and Osaka. It is no good turning casual labour over to the other side of the island if they cannot come back safely and comfortably and easily. We also need, gentlemen, a tube tramway or railway under the harbour. Kowloon will shortly become the terminus of the Calais Railway and I hope shortly after that the terminus of the Charing Cross Railway and with that development Kowloon is bound to become a great city. On this side of the harbour we have banks and business houses and if they are not to fade before their rising rivals on the other side of the harbour they must be properly connected and it must be made as easy for us to get from Pedder Street to Paddington as from Kowloon to Charing Cross. So far, gentlemen, I have only mentioned that aspect of the housing problem raised by the influx of Chinese from Kwangtung and Kwoongsi, but in the last four years we have had another peaceful invasion. (Applause). The Japanese population in this Colony has increased many fold—I should not like to say how many fold—during the four years of war. They have not taken up fresh land from the Government to any great extent, but have acquired houses which were already in occupation of private owners. Large sections of Wanchai, practically the whole of Kennedy Road, Bowen Road, Robinson Road and Conduit Road are now owned and occupied by the Japanese and the former occupants of those districts have been edged out and now have nowhere to live. (Applause). The worst sufferers in this respect are the Portuguese who form an essential part of the commercial community in this Colony. (Applause). They are entitled to ask and they should receive a reservation of their own. (Applause). It is for them to say where they would like that reservation placed, whether about Happy Valley or on the Kowloon side, but if they are given their reservation they should also be given a recreation ground larger and more suitable for their numbers than the triangular corner site now occupied by the Club de Recreio. (Applause).

Lastly, gentlemen, but I hope not lastly there is that large section of the British community who cannot afford to live up in the mists of the Peak and pay \$300 or \$400 yearly for a five roomed house there, who cannot afford to send their families to Wel-haiwei or Vancouver, but who need comfortable surroundings and also a local health resort. The Colony, gentlemen, is big enough to provide both. (Applause). It is again for them to say where they would like it placed and I know of no better locality for residence than the pine-clad foot hills of Beacon Hill. (Applause). But they need a short road leading to the tunnel station and a tramway leading to the ferry. As a health resort there are many islands and I know of none more suitable than Dumbell Island, where it is possible to hear from your house day and night the roar of the waves and where you can get into the sea from your house without running the risk of catching cold by going on a bathing picnic. Gentlemen, these are short observations, and I could have dealt with them at greater length but some have come here to listen to another and very important resolution. I therefore have the greatest pleasure in seconding this resolution. (Loud applause).

